

# 2024 April Workshop on Helping Plants Survive Heat

The Sun City West Desert Garden Club hosted a workshop on April 23 from 10:00-11:00 am at the R.H. Johnson Social Hall West and invited all Sun City West Rec Card holders to attend. Approximately 210 were in attendance.

The topic was Helping Your Plants Survive If Another Extreme Heat Summer Occurs.

Presenter, Ben McGonigle, owner of Design Tree Maintenance, explained how extreme heat slows and damages the growth of roots, decreases the ability of the plants to make food and breathe, and increases the water stress on the plants by the loss of water vapor through their leaves. He explained how asphalt, rocks, stucco fences, etc. increase temperatures, how consistent watering schedules are beneficial, the reasons to water at the base and at the drip line, and if feasible, to spray plants off after dusk to cool the plants.

Ben graciously stayed after the presentation to answer many questions.



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## DESIGN TREE MAINTENANCE

### LANDSCAPE WATERING GUIDELINES FOR ARIZONA'S ESTABLISHED TREES/PLANTS

Spring/Summer (90°-110°)			Fall/Winter (< 89°)				
	Frequency	Watering Depth	Duration		Frequency	Watering Depth	Duration
Trees	Every 2-5 Days	24"-36"	1.5 - 3 Hours	Trees	Every 7-10 Days	24"-36"	1.5 - 3 Hours
Shrubs	Every 2-3 Days	16"-24"	1 - 2 Hours	Shrubs	Every 5-7 Days	16"-24"	.75 - 1.5 Hours
Cacti	Every 7-14 Days	8"-12"	.75 - 1.5 Hours	Cacti	Every 14-21 Days	8"-12"	.75 - 1.5 Hours
Pots	Every Day	24"-36"	7 - 15 Minutes	Pots	Every Other Day	24"-36"	7 - 15 Minutes

